

# Chicopee Register

COMMUNITY

## COVID-19 numbers ‘not looking good,’ says Mayor

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – Chicopee Mayor John Vieau acknowledged the city’s rising COVID-19 case count during his April 20 Mayor’s Briefing. Vieau made his stance on the pandemic quite clear; Chicopee is not yet out of the woods.

“The numbers are not looking that good in Chicopee,” said Vieau. “We are still averaging about 20 new cases of COVID-19 per day.”

On Tuesday evening, Vieau reported that there were 365 active cases of COVID-19 in Chicopee. On April 20, Chicopee’s COVID Task Force reported 3,632 closed cases and an accumulative case total of 4,141; 26 residents have reportedly succumbed to COVID-19 since the onset of the pandemic last year.

Chicopee’s municipal COVID-19 testing site remains operational on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 8 a.m. until noon at the Council on Aging in the RiverMills Senior Center, located at 5 W Main St.

“The only way to rid the city of Chicopee of COVID-19 is [testing], which takes people out of the general popula-



PHOTO BY DALTON ZBIERSKI.

Mayor John Vieau speaks to the media at Szot Park hours before his regular Mayor’s Briefing on April 20.

tion,” said Vieau. “We’re going to continue those efforts until we feel that there’s no need to anymore. It doesn’t appear that there’s an end in sight.”

Vieau did share a positive update pertaining to the regional vaccine distribution site, which was approved by the Department of Public Health to operate out of the parking lot of the Castle of Knights on Memorial Drive. The site will

serve residents from Chicopee, Granby, Holyoke and South Hadley.

“We’re anticipating to have doses available at the Castle of Knights as soon as next week – hopefully on Thursday or Friday. That’s our goal,” said Vieau. “We are completely ready, approved and ready to fulfill our duty of getting vaccines into people’s arms at the regional site. We’re

just waiting on the state.”

Vieau announced that the COA has partnered with Holyoke Health Center, and doses of the vaccine will soon be given to seniors inside of the senior center. Beginning on April 26, doses will be administered in the senior center’s Garden Room.

“We’re excited to be able

See COVID page 5

COMMUNITY

## Body of Aiden Blanchard recovered from Connecticut River

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – After a two-month search, the body of Aiden Blanchard has been recovered from the Connecticut River.

Blanchard would have celebrated his 12th birthday in March. He disappeared from Chicopee’s Willimansett neighborhood on Feb. 5, and his body was found on April 14.

Blanchard was last seen alone in the vicinity of the Medina Street Boat Ramp on a cold winter day. For weeks on end, local first responders and the Massachusetts State Police Marine Unit combed the river in search of the missing boy, who seemingly vanished without a trace.

The Chicopee Police Department Underwater Response Team was continuing its search of the Chicopee and Connecticut Rivers on April 14 when Blanchard’s body was discovered.

“At 11:15 a.m. officers located a victim in the water in between the North End Bridge and Memorial Bridge. The Chicopee Police Detective Bureau and the Massa-



COURTESY PHOTO

On April 14, first responders recovered the body of Aiden Blanchard, who would have turned 12 last month.

chusetts State Police Detective Unit, who are assigned to the Hampden County District Attorney Anthony Gulluni’s Office, were called to the scene,” read a press release issued by Chicopee Police on April 14.

Blanchard’s body was transported to the Hampden County Medical Examiner’s Office where a medical examiner confirmed Blanchard’s

identity. Gulluni offered his sympathy to the Blanchard family, as did Chicopee Police.

“The men and women of the Chicopee Police Department offer our deepest condolences to Aiden’s family and friends during this difficult time,” read the April 14 press release issued by the police department.

Numerous community entities, including the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee, also sent their condolences, along with Chicopee Mayor John Vieau.

“This has been an extremely difficult time. Words cannot capture the anguish that Aiden’s grieving family has felt since his disappearance,” said Vieau. “All of us have been praying and hoping for a different outcome. There is nothing more painful than the loss of a child, and the thoughts and prayers of all Chicopee are with the loved ones of Aiden Blanchard.”

Vieau held a moment of silence in memory of Blanchard during his Mayor’s Briefing on April 20.

Blanchard was a sixth-

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COMMUNITY

## Rivers Park closed for construction

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – One of Chicopee’s largest recreational spaces will be closed until June. Rivers Park on Meadow Street is currently off limits to the public as the Parks & Recreation Department coordinates multiple construction projects.

“We are replacing the pool filters with a modern, super-efficient filtration system. We’re adding in the city’s second community garden. One of the decisions for this was based on the proximity to the Chicopee Farmers’ Market about a block away,” said Benjamin Strepka, superintendent of the Parks & Recreation Department.

In 2019, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts awarded the city of Chicopee with a \$400,000 Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities Grant to improve Rivers Park. The grant is reimbursable; Chicopee must match the state 70 to 30, respectively, said Strepka.

In addition to the filtration

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### IN THE CITY

## Abbey Brook to be restored

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### IN THE CITY

## Center Park ribbon cutting ceremony Friday

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### FACES & PLACES

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## Pacers take down Putnam

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Abbey Brook to be restored

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – The city of Chicopee is overseeing the restoration of Abbey Brook. As part of a three-phase project, the Upper and Lower Bemis Pond Dams will be removed and the Front Street Culvert will be replaced.

“It’s actually going to put a natural, free-falling wetlands and stream back in place [to] restore Abbey Brook back to its original context,” said Associate Planner Nathan Moreau. “Residents will be able to have a nice wetlands walk that will be fully accessible to all, and it just creates another highlight for the city’s parks system.”

Abbey Brook rises in Springfield and flows through Szot Park in Chicopee before emptying in the Chicopee River.

The small stream covers approximately 1.5 miles, flowing through a small culvert underneath Front Street and into a tunnel constructed beneath the Chicopee Electric Light Department before reaching the Chicopee River.

The stream is currently interrupted in Szot Park by the Upper and Lower Bemis Pond Dams – two man-made features that have outlasted their intended use and are contributing to the system’s deteriorating water quality.

To complete the project, Chicopee has partnered with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, along with the state Department of Environmental Protection,

the Division of Ecological Restoration and the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Chicopee received Section 319 funding, made available by the DEP to help cover the design and permitting process and the implementation of multiple storm water and nonpoint source pollution controls.

In search of further funding, the city has applied to the state Dam and Seawall Grant Program to support the design, engineering, permitting and removal of Lower Bemis Pond Dam, which is structurally compromised.

The state Division of Ecological Restoration designated the endeavor as a Provisional Priority Project in 2018. The designation sought to investigate the feasibility of removing both dams and enhance the Abbey Brook corridor.

DER is assisting the city as it navigates the different factors associated with the large-scale restoration project. Flood and flow modeling revealed that the removal of the Lower Bemis Pond Dam can be accomplished without severely impacting the Abbey Brook.

Removing Upper Bemis Pond Dam is more complicated since it could lead to more frequent high flows, potentially causing flooding on Front Street.

Chicopee elected to pursue the large-scale restoration project to improve the entire Abbey Brook corridor, including both dams.



Associate Planner Nathan Moreau discusses the restoration of Abbey Brook on April 20.

A structure that meets current design standards will be used to replace the Front Street culvert, bringing more light to the underground section of the brook.

The project’s first phase will prioritize the removal of Lower Bemis Pond Dam and include the restoration of lower Abbey Brook.

The second phase will tackle the replacement of the Front Street culvert and address the brook’s underground section. The final phase will include the removal of Upper Bemis Pond Dam and further restoration of Abbey Brook.

Each phase will proceed as funding allows. DER is in the process of funding additional work to help inform the project staging, permitting and establish estimates of probable project costs. The work is expected to be completed by June 30.

Dalton Zbierski can be reached at [dzbierski@turley.com](mailto:dzbierski@turley.com).



Associate Planner Nathan Moreau stands beside Mayor John Vieau on Upper Bemis Pond Dam on April 20.



Associate Planner Nathan Moreau offers members of the media a tour of Upper and Lower Bemis Pond Dams on April 20.




Members of several state agencies walked across Upper Bemis Pond Dam on April 20, as Associate Planner Nathan Moreau described the upcoming Abbey Brook restoration project.



As part of restoring Abbey Brook in Szot Park back to its natural state, Lower and upper Bemis Pond Dams will be removed.



State and city employees joined members of the media on Tuesday morning during a tour of Abbey Brook in Szot Park.



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# Awareness of autism critical for acceptance

City residents call for more services for those on the spectrum

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – One of the city’s most passionate advocates for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder remains hard at work.

Marisa Carpenter, founder of the Facebook group “Chicopee Light it up BLUE for Autism,” is on a mission to strengthen the community’s understanding of the disorder.

The group endeavors to bring together family members and caregivers of individuals on the spectrum.

April is Autism Awareness Month but Carpenter, a mother to two teenagers on the spectrum, is committed to the cause year-round. She emphasized the relationship that exists between awareness and acceptance.

“Autism is not cookie-cutter. You have to have that awareness to bring the acceptance,” said Carpenter. “How can you have acceptance if you don’t know what the signs of [autism] are? It can really be an invisible disability.”

By conducting outreach, Carpenter has united families and caregivers with local business owners, state legislators, municipal officials and school district employees. She gave credit to Chicopee Mayor John Vieau, who dedicated the month of April to raising autism awareness in the city.

Over the past several years, Carpenter has campaigned on Beacon Hill on numerous occasions; she’s continued to do so virtually during the pandemic.

Carpenter reminded residents that elected officials have the power to estab-



PHOTOS FROM MARISA CARPENTER

Gov. Charlie Baker issued a proclamation earlier this month declaring April as Autism Awareness Month.

lish legislature that can create opportunities for individuals on the spectrum, while better equipping the caretakers who support them.

“Our state leaders and legislators need to know that autism is on the rise,” said Carpenter. “It’s crucial because they make the laws. People need to be more aware and more compassionate and understanding about the individual [on the spectrum] and the family member.”

Increased community knowledge can lead directly to a more comprehensive understanding of the disorder. Carpenter feels strongly that more resources must reach Western Massachusetts.

“I’ll say this 1,000 times: Western Mass. always seems to get pushed [back]. Everything west of Worcester, we need to see more action. We need to have more services out this way. That’s what a lot of peo-

ple need to start seeing,” said Carpenter.

Carpenter credits Chicopee Public Schools for its outstanding approach to educating students on the spectrum. She credited the Director of Special Education, Andrea Stolar, and her colleagues for their flexibility, compassion and understanding.

“They’ve always been supportive and open to whatever ideas help. They think outside the box, which we normally have to for our kids,” said Carpenter.

Moving forward, Carpenter is optimistic that a stronger rapport can be built with the Chicopee Police Department, where there is much to be accomplished.



Marisa Carpenter founded “Chicopee Light it up BLUE for Autism” in an effort to unite family members and caretakers of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

“I’d like to get back in the swing again with the police department and try to start working with them and maybe start a couple new programs,” said Carpenter.

On Carpenter’s Facebook page, numerous contests occur regularly, all of which aim to increase acknowledgment and awareness of individuals on the spectrum. For the next week, a coloring contest will be ongoing.

On April 30 at 6 p.m., three random winners will be chosen; each winner will receive a gift card to Barnes & Noble. To participate, one can print off a page found on the Facebook page. A photo of the finished product can be submitted to the page.

Dalton Zbierski can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.



During Autism Awareness Month, flags such as this one can be found throughout the Commonwealth.

## Chicopee Athletic Hall of Fame announces 2021 events

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Athletic Hall of Fame Executive Committee recently announced that the 2021 Golf Tournament and Induction Ceremony Dinner is canceled.

Save the date for the HOF 5K Fun Run/Walk planned for Sept. 18. More details to follow.

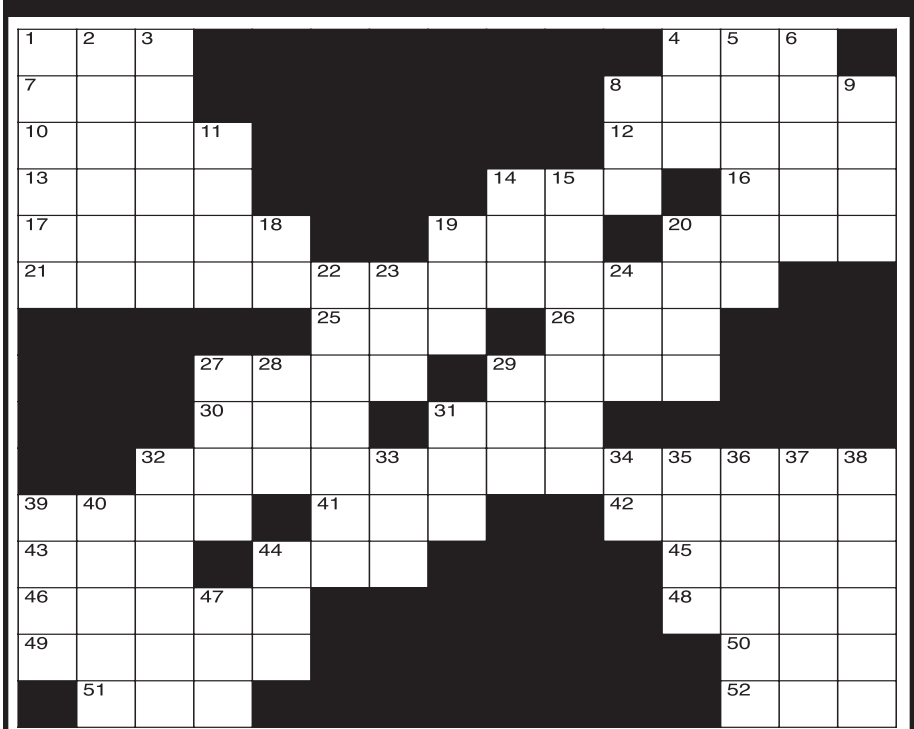
The committee will continue to

meet to select 2021 scholarship recipients and those selected will be notified in June. The deadline for scholarship applications is May 1.

For scholarship applications, visit [chicopeeps.org/athletics-ca110258](http://chicopeeps.org/athletics-ca110258) or contact the Director of Athletics, Sean Mackin at 594-3574 or [samackin@cpsge.org](mailto:samackin@cpsge.org)

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### CLUES ACROSS

- Ocean surface indicator (abbr.)
- American time
- Satisfaction
- Diving duck
- Very small amount
- Metrical units
- An ignorant or foolish person
- Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- It may sting you
- Turn outward
- Perform on stage
- “CSI” actor George
- Localities
- Make a choice
- Indicates position
- One of Thor’s names

- Indian musical rhythmic pattern
- “The Raven” author
- Take in solid food
- Legendary QB
- Sorrels
- Organization of nations
- Texas pharmaceutical company
- Mathematical term
- Expression of disappointment
- Abba \_\_, Israeli politician
- Hide away
- Salad restaurant
- Daughters of Boreas (mythology)
- Men’s fashion

- accessory
- Political action committee
- Unhappy
- CLUES DOWN
1. Make unhappy
2. Heard the confession of
3. Capital of Taiwan
4. Fiddler crab
5. Brazilian dances
6. Fit with device to assist breathing
8. Brother or sister
9. Pastries
11. “Lone Survivor” director Peter
14. Boat type (abbr.)
15. Apertures (biology)
18. Suffix
19. Creative endeavor
20. Icelandic poem

- Spanish dances
- Town in Central Italy
- Cars need it
- Mimics
- Rocky peak
- Cigarette (slang)
- One point south of due east
- Soap actress Braun
- Large domesticated wild ox
- Island nation
- Appear
- Addictive practices
- Loss of control of one’s body
- Type of poster
- Greek mountain
- Funny person
- One and only
- Pouch

ANSWERS ON PAGE 4



# Chicopee welcomes Center Park at 181 Center St.

CHICOPEE – Center Park, coined a “swiss army knife of a park” for Chicopee business owners and entrepreneurs will host an official ribbon cutting on Fri., April 23 at 11:30 a.m.

The quarter acre lot, with pea gravel landing and ten-foot picnic tables, is canopied by four golden shade sails, and aims to attract food truck festivities, outdoor gathering, and exercise classes over the coming summer months.

Born out of the Chicopee Transformative Development Initiative (TDI) Partnership’s revitalization efforts in downtown Chicopee, and spearheaded by the City of Chicopee, the Greater Chicopee Chamber of Commerce, business owners, and residents, the park aims to uplift Chicopee Center by creating alternative space for economic activity, partnership, and community.

The project was made possible with the help of \$10,000 from MassDevelopment’s Transformative Development Initiative and \$10,000 from MassDevelopment’s Commonwealth Places program. Chicopee TDI fellow, Andrea Monson, has played an integral part in site development by raising community voices, visioning with key stakeholders, and pinpointing the need for more vibrant, active, sites available for business owner use in the district.



COURTESY PHOTO

A rendering of Chicopee's new Center Park. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held on April 23.

Julie Copoulos, Executive Director of the Chicopee Chamber congratulated involved partners.

“Our team is solid. Roca, A. Crane Construction, Interstate Towing Inc., Gasoline Alley Foundation, and the On-druck Company independently donated time and resources to get this project over the finish line,” Copoulos said. “Center Park would not have been possible without partnerships.”

Celebrating successful transition of two remediated brownfield sites in just one month, Chicopee Director of Planning and Development, Lee Pouliot said “The proper reuse of this site is a linchpin in the continued efforts to improve quality of life for all residents, businesses and stakeholders in the neighborhood.”

## RiverMills Center launches tablet lending program

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Council on Aging has launched a tablet lending program for Chicopee seniors ages 55 and older who have internet access, but do not have an updated device to get on the internet successfully.

These tablets can be used to get online, play games, or join Zoom programming. This program will allow seniors to sign out a device for up to three weeks at a time. The tablets will also have charging and typing accessories, as well as a basic user guide.

Anyone interested in borrowing a tablet can contact Program Technician Jona Ruiz at (413) 534-3698 ext.104.

## Polish takeout dinners at St. Stan’s School, April 24

CHICOPEE – St. Stanislaus School will be having a Polish plate dinners-togo on Saturday, April 24, from 3 to 6 p.m. behind the school at 534 Front St. in Chicopee.

This is a drive-thru event. Please stay in cars and volunteers will be glad to serve customers. The Polish dinners will have: two cabbage pierogi, two cheese and potato pierogi, one golumbki, a side of kapusta, five slices of kielbasa, and rye bread. Tickets are \$ 15 each and can be purchased in the following manner: at the School Office (9 a.m. – 2 p.m.), the Parish Office (9 a.m. – 5 p.m.), or by reserving online using the link on the school’s website at [www.saintstans-school.org](http://www.saintstans-school.org) (click the News tab) or the Parish Website at [www.ststansbasilica.org](http://www.ststansbasilica.org). Reserved orders must be paid for at pick up on April 24. Deadline to purchase or reserve tickets is Friday, April 16. Only 600 tickets will be sold! For more information, call Cindy Conklin at (413)592-7211.

St. Stan’s will also be selling the following frozen items: cabbage pierogi at \$ 8/dz., cheese and potato pierogi at \$ 9/dz., golumbki \$ 10/4pk., kapusta \$ 5/Qt. Limit of five of each item, while supplies last. There will also be a limited supply of Domins White and Beet Horseradish at \$3 a jar.

There will be homemade chrust for \$ 5 per container, and homemade cookies six for \$ 3, or 12 for \$ 5.

A raffle will be held, with tickets available for purchase at \$ 5 each, when purchasing dinner tickets and at the event. The prize is a basket with Polish items and includes \$ 75 of Mass. Lottery scratch tickets and \$ 25 cash.

## RiverMills Center transportation services in April

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Council on Aging’s Transportation Department is doing emergency rides to supermarkets, pharmacies and doctor’s appointment during COVID-19, for Chicopee seniors 60 and older.

Transportation service is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m., for Chicopee’s older adults. For reservations, please call 413-536-5733.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Chicopee COA follows all CDC Safety Standards and adheres to all mandates from the City and State of Massachusetts.

A \$10,000 grant from WestMass ElderCare has allowed the senior center to expand its transportation offerings.

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‘Random choice’ nets \$1 million



COURTESY PHOTO

Cynthia Quaglia parlayed a whim into \$1 million.

*The winning ticket was purchased in Chicopee*

By Michael Harrison  
mharrison@turley.com

CHICOPEE — Call it a whim, a hunch, a lark, or just plain luck. Cynthia Quaglia can call it a whole lot of cash. The Ludlow resident told state lottery officials she “randomly” purchased a “100X Bonus” scratch-off lottery card at the Country Trading Post, located at 771 Burnett Road in Chicopee recently, according to the news section of the

Mass Lottery website. That \$10 card paid off with a \$1 million prize. The odds of winning that much are 2,016,000-1, the lottery website says. The “100X Bonus” game can pay out up to \$4 million and the odds of winning that much are more than 5 million-1. Quaglia could have opted for \$50,000 a year for 20 years, or a lower lump-sum payment. She chose the latter, which came to \$650,000 before taxes, according to the lottery website. For selling the winning card, Country Trading Post receives a \$10,000 bonus.

COVID from page 1

to dose our older adults at the COA. It’s been a long time coming,” said Vieau. “Our goal is, we’re able to do 160 [doses] per day and also 100 on Saturdays. This is a testament of how hard the Vaccine Task Force has been working to try to find any creative way [of getting doses].” Vieau credited COA Executive Director Sherry Manyak for the role she’s played in making the senior center accessible to HCC. Of the 160 doses that are allotted each day, 80 will be given to Chicopee seniors, and 80 will go to individuals affiliated with HCC. Next week, the city will contact all of the older adults on the COA’s registry. Those who have not yet been vaccinated will be given an appointment immediately. When each individual in the registry

is vaccinated, the city will continue its partnership with HCC and begin inoculating city employees. Vieau urges residents to get vaccinated at any one of the nearby sites offering doses; he mentioned the Eastfield Mall in Springfield and the Big E in West Springfield. Despite the availability of numerous sites, not enough doses are being distributed to Western Massachusetts, said Vieau, who identified several striking statistics. “In Hampden County, the cumulative percentage of individuals with at least one dose administered is 33%. We are the lowest in the state of Massachusetts, and that’s frankly just not fair,” said Vieau. “You look at Chicopee, Chicopee has fully vaccinated, as of April 15, 16.7%. We’re just below most of the communities here in Western Mass. Simply not fair.” Dalton Zbierski can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

BLANCHARD from page 1

grade student at Edward J. Bellamy Middle School. Previously, he attended Gen. John J. Stefanik School. Ten months ago, Blanchard lost his father, David, who was killed in a car accident. Blanchard is survived by his mother, sister and brothers. “For them, this heartbreaking story is far from over, but we hope that the recovery of the child’s body can be the first step towards healing,” Vieau said. “We are grateful to the Chicopee Police Department, who will do everything possible to help them through what is surely their worst nightmare.” Over the past 18 months, multiple in-

cidents have occurred on or near frozen rivers in the city of Chicopee. The body of a missing 10-year-old boy, a fifth-grade student at Sgt. Robert R. Litwin School, was recovered from the Chicopee River on Dec. 31, 2019, after a four-day search. During the same 2019 incident, an 11-year-old boy from Pawtucket, R.I. also fell into the frigid water. Despite being rescued, he later died of his injuries in the hospital. It remains to be seen what safety measures can be taken by the city to ensure that no further tragedies unfold on either the Chicopee River or Connecticut River. Dalton Zbierski can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE?  
Send your stories and photos to elinscott@turley.com

Derek Girouard of Chicopee competing on Assumption’s Men’s Track & Field team

WORCESTER – The Assumption Department of Athletics has announced that Derek Girouard of Chicopee has been named to the 2021 Track & Field team. “Our student-athletes are committed to excellence in competition and in the classroom,” said Peter Early, first-year head coach of the Assumption’s Track & Field team. “With the continued support of the Department of Athletics, we are invested in supporting our student-athletes’ efforts to

improve as competitors and individuals, and continue to build on the solid foundation and tradition this program has built over its many years.” The Assumption University Men’s Track & Field team returned to competition in April after the 2020 spring season was cancelled due to the pandemic. The Hounds took home third place at the Merrimack Invitational, in which they competed against Division I schools Merrimack College, UMass Lowell, and Bryant University.

Enough is Enough seeks teenagers to volunteer

REGION – Enough is Enough is a student-led organization that aims to help bring police brutality to an end and defeat systematic racism and is currently looking for new members from Western Mass. “We have multiple committees within our organization to focus on certain issues; our committees have been working on curriculum change (within schools), helping Black-owned businesses, spreading awareness through social media, and reaching out to local politicians to advocate for policies regarding police reform and systemic racism,” the organization said in a statement. “In addition to doing this, our organization has branched out to 15 national chapters and over 800 members! When this organization was formed the main goal was just

to organize local protests in areas that didn’t have them but now, we strive to do so much more. Our ultimate goal is to end systematic racism through education and policy change while making it easier for police to be held accountable for their actions with a fair trial that doesn’t employ unfair protections such as qualified immunity.” The organization is currently looking for teenagers who are interested in creating a change in their communities as well as their country. Volunteering at Enough is Enough is a great opportunity to connect with a diverse set of individuals across the nation. Students will actively partake in different committees of their choice in order to make change in society. Contact enoughisenoughusa1@gmail.com for more information.

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## EDITORIAL

# Earth Day and Arbor Day: Get inspired for the environment's sake

Last week's annoying snow storm notwithstanding, spring is rounding the home stretch to full bloom and many of us look forward to spending more time outdoors. And right on cue, Earth Day is April 22 and Arbor Day is April 30.

It's as good a time as any to pause and reflect on the environment and what each of us can do to be good stewards of our Mother Earth. Even better than thinking about it is doing something to make a difference. There are so many things each of us can do that helps. Just turning off the lights in unoccupied rooms, switching to LED bulbs and fixing dripping faucets are simple, positive actions we can all do in the name of sustainable living. For those who don't mind getting down and dirty, planting a tree is a gift to the environment that keeps on giving (get more information about appropriate trees for our area at [arborday.org](http://arborday.org)).

A river clean-up event planned for last Saturday was postponed because of the nor'easter and has been rescheduled for May 8. Circle the date and simply show up at 9 a.m. at Laviolette Field in Three Rivers (for more information, contact Sarah Fortune at 413-626-7084 or [sfortune@townofpalmer.com](mailto:sfortune@townofpalmer.com)).

Homeowners can take advantage of an offer by the The Great American Rain Barrel Company to purchase a rain barrel at a wholesale price of \$79. This is unquestionably one of the best things you can do for the environment because rain barrels not only conserve water, but also prevent contaminated runoff from reaching our rivers and streams. To order, go to [greatamericanrainbarrel.com/community/](http://greatamericanrainbarrel.com/community/) and select "Spring-field" under community programs.

Want more earth-friendly tips? Consider:

- Checking thrift shops for things you need before purchasing new.
- When you do buy things, scrutinize packaging and try to avoid what can't be recycled or isn't biodegradable.
- Plant a garden to attract butterflies and bees.
- Compost your food scraps rather than throw them in the trash.
- Take reusable bags to the supermarket.
- Consider walking or bike riding rather than taking the car, when possible.
- Clean up after your dog during walks or even in your own yard (again, the runoff issue).

That's just a small, random sample of the many things all of us can do to help protect the environment many of us cherish and all of us depend on. Showing care and concern for the environment shouldn't be confined to Earth Day and Arbor Day. But if you're someone who hasn't given much thought to the environment and what you can do to make a difference, there are no better days to start.

## Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources.

Send letters to: **The Chicopee Register**,  
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The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

## GUEST COLUMN

## HISTORY MATTERS

# April 16 to April 30

*History Matters is a biweekly feature courtesy of The Grateful American Book Prize, which is given to children's books that emphasize the importance of American history.*

By John Grimaldi and David Bruce Smith  
Guest columnists

Less than two months after the siege of the Alamo, the Texas War for Independence took a turn towards triumph; on April 21, 1836, Sam Houston overwhelmed the army of Mexican General Santa Anna in the Battle of San Jacinto Houston, and his volunteers flogged the Mexican army and imprisoned their leader.

Houston agreed to release Santa Anna, a former Mexican president 11 times, only if he endorsed a treaty that acknowledged their independence and ended Mexico's aggressive machinations.

In the meantime, the Republic of Texas was formed in 1836, and Houston was elected president—twice.

On Dec. 29, 1845, Texas became America's 28th state, but maneuvers with Mexico persisted another two years; according to History.com, it "helped to fulfill America's 'manifest destiny' to expand its territory across the entire North American continent."

For more information about Sam Houston, the Grateful American Book Prize recommends "The Mexican American War" by John DiConsiglio.

### Earth Day

In 1847, Vermont Congressman George Perkins Marsh gave a speech that positioned the nation into thinking about the necessity "to conserve America's natural resources," according to the Library of Congress.

Seventeen years later, President Lincoln signed the Yosemite Valley Grant Act; it declared that California's Valley and Mariposa Big Tree Grove "shall be held for public use,

resort and recreation." Eight years later, President Ulysses S. Grant signed the Yellowstone National Park Protection Act into law and set up the first national park in the world.

Throughout the industrial revolution, in the end days of the 19th century and most of the 20th, the environmentalists' lobby to restore water and air pollution to reasonable ratios, has lagged in most cases.

Then, in 1969, Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson inaugurated a crusade to enlighten America about why the earth's resources needed to be saved.

The first "Earth Day" was celebrated April 22, 1970. According to the website, the event "inspired 20 million Americans, at the time, 10% of the total population of the United States, to take to the streets, parks and auditoriums to demonstrate against the impacts of 150 years of industrial development, which had left a growing legacy of serious human impacts."

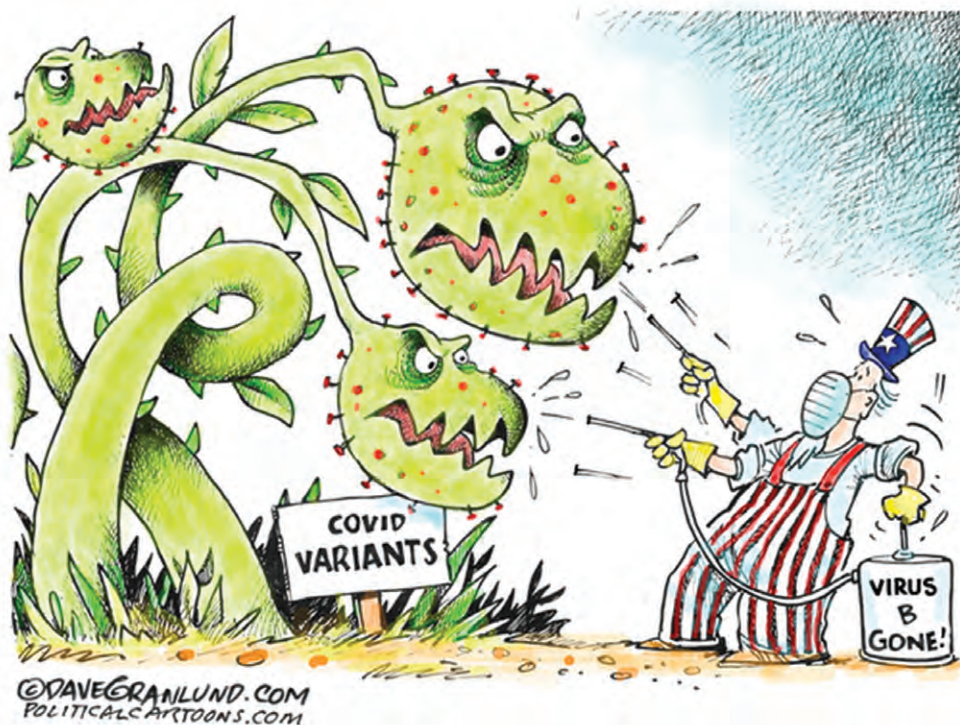
The Grateful American Book Prize recommends "World Without Fish" by Mark Kurlansky.

### George Washington

On April 30, 1789, George Washington was "humbled" when he was elected America's first president, according to the Library of Congress. Washington "delivered the speech in a deep, low voice that betrayed what one observer called 'manifest embarrassment.'"

He conveyed his Federal Hall remarks in the nation's New York City capital. They were somewhat brief and fixated on the passage of the Bill of Rights. He had no obligation to deliver a message, other than to take his oath of office, but with that gesture, he set a precedent to address the nation, a tradition observed by every president since. Washington was the Chief Executive two consecutive, four-year terms.

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends "George Washington and the Founding of a Nation," by Albert Marrin.



## BUSINESS

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The Chicopee Register welcomes submissions of news in or related to Chicopee and its residents. Our "People News," is filled with submitted engagement announcements, wedding announcements, birth announcements, your new baby or news about your 25th or 50th anniversary celebrations. Please e-mail correspondence along with a photo to [chicopeeregister@turley.com](mailto:chicopeeregister@turley.com) or send it to: Chicopee Register, c/o Turley Publications, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

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# Enjoy Earth Day while rethinking your gardening practices

Die-hard gardeners celebrate Earth Day year round, I feel. We take pleasure in our yards and the bounty our gardens produce. But when the formal holiday of April 22nd approaches, I pause, analyze my own practices and make sure they are still in tune with my beliefs. While not a purist, I generally try to tread lightly on Mother Earth. I encourage you to take inventory this week as well, and if so inspired, adopt some of the following ideals borrowed from previous columns and add them to your own routines.

Feed the soil, not the plant. Have your soil tested and ask for organic recommendations to correct nutrient deficiencies. Replenishing your garden with amendments like rock phosphate and greensand will help to create long-lasting nutrient storehouses. Healthy soil will produce plants that are less prone to insect and disease problems.

Start a compost pile. Layer your vegetable and yard waste, keep it moist and give it a turn; after a few days turn it again. After a short time it will decompose, leaving behind a great source of organic matter. No matter how you garden, be it vegetables, flowers, herbs, fruits or even shrubs, each benefit from a yearly top dressing of “black gold.”

Make compost tea. Are your transplants looking a little pale? Rather than

sprinkling them with “blue water,” perk them up with home-brewed compost tea. Mix one part well-rotted compost or manure to five parts water and allow it to sit for a week or more. Strain before foliar feeding your plants. Or, take a cup of the manure, pop it in a square of muslin and let it steep in a five gallon bucket. Fill your watering can no straining necessary.

Shop Mom and Pop. Develop a relationship with the garden center you buy your plants and gardening supplies from. Ask them to carry organic seeds, potting soils and pest control options. A friend of mine pestered one local company so much that they now carry everything I mentioned above as well as organic livestock feed.

Reduce, reuse, recycle! I first became familiar with this catch phrase back in 1990, when Earth Day celebrations went global. In the context of plastic pots and other containers used to grow or move plants, I’d like to think that the local Mom and Pop shop would take back the pots you bought their plants in and use them to grow next years crop. If not, maybe you could reuse them to start



some homegrown seedlings and recycle the rest. I sure do, and when they get old and tattered I double them up! An even better solution for earth-conscious growers would be to replace plastic with fiber (stronger than peat and made from recycled materials to boot).

Use the least toxic measures to control bugs and other garden thugs. Beer to trap slugs, and baking soda for black spot, the list of remedies to fight garden maladies is numerous and not always a stretch of the imagination. If you choose a chemical option, follow the manufacturer’s recommendations. Assuming that more is better is outdated and dangerous thinking! We especially worry about our pollinator populations these days.

Conserve water. We all know that watering during the heat of the day results in lots of moisture lost to evaporation while watering in the evening can make plants more prone to disease. What to do? For happy, hydrated plants water in the early morning hours instead. Hand watering at the base of each plant or using soaker hoses or drip irrigation is far better than overhead sprin-

klers when it comes to conservation and disease prevention.

Extend the harvest. Do you know how far most fruits and vegetables have to travel to reach the local supermarket? Probably far more than the average American travels in a year’s time. Frustrated? Then read up on various methods of extending the use of your own garden bounty past the growing season. This could mean growing a few veggies like winter squash, onions or garlic, all of which store well. It could also mean trying your hand at freezing or drying some of your produce for use in the off-season. I just thawed out some roasted peppers for dinner tonight. It is a good feeling. Few of us can feed ourselves entirely, but whatever we can grow offsets the rest.

Enjoy Earth Day while rethinking your gardening practices.

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com) with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.*

## RIVERS PARK from page 1

system and community garden, the World War I memorial that rests on the site will be enhanced. New fitness equipment and a splash pad will also be installed.

Furthermore, ADA improvements will occur throughout the park, and a sidewalk and walking path will be implemented, circling the property.

The city is working on the project’s design with Milford-based architectural firm Carolyn Cooney and Associates. The construction contract for the project has been awarded to Mountain View Landscapes and Lawncare, Inc. of Chicopee.

Countless residents visit Rivers Park each year, and many will benefit from the construction that is ongoing.

“Rivers is our second most-trafficked park in the city,” said Strepka. “It’s one of the bigger parks in the entire Willimansett area, so it does get a lot of traffic from that surrounding neighborhood.”

Rivers Park serves as the home field for the baseball, softball and soccer teams at Chicopee Comprehensive High School. During summer and fall, numerous adult teams utilize the playing fields as well.

One of Chicopee’s only two operational outdoor Olympic-sized pools sits in Rivers Park. The site also features a pavilion that, during times of normalcy, often holds picnics or other gatherings.

Willimansett residents in search of an alternative park or playing field are encouraged to visit Nash Field, located at the end of Ferry Street.

Making Chicopee’s recreational spaces accessible is a priority for the Parks & Recreation Department. More than two dozen maintained parks and playing fields exist in the city.

“There’s parks within walking distance of most neighborhoods,” said Strepka. “We’re appreciative of the state and all of the grant opportunities that were given to enhance our parks and open spaces.”

The majority of Chicopee’s parks remain open as they have been throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Strepka and his colleagues are constantly monitoring state guidelines, trying to stay up to date with any modifications.

“We have several different guidelines we need to follow for different things like picnics and pools and playgrounds. We’re always trying to stay on top of those and keep an eye for changes in what we’re able to do in the parks,” said Strepka.

Playgrounds in Chicopee’s parks are open to the public, and teams are safely competing on the city’s playing fields. All of the city’s spray parks and at least one pool will be open this summer, and basketball hoops may soon make their return.

“Basketball hoops, for the time, are not up just yet,” said Strepka. “We’re in constant contact with the Health Department and the Mayor’s Office. We do have a plan in place for when we’re ready to put them up; we’re hoping to be ready to do that fairly soon.”

Dalton Zbierski can be reached at [dzbierski@turley.com](mailto:dzbierski@turley.com).

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Zoom Tai Chi with Michelle

CHICOPEE – The Council on Aging offers “Tai Chi with Michelle” Via Zoom, Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.

Experience the many slow and gentle benefits of Tai Chi Fit/Qigong. The class is led by Michelle Zemba LMT, Certified in Tai Chi/Qigong. This is an online class.

The Zoom link will be shared on RiverMills Center’s Facebook page. If you do not have Facebook, please call RiverMills Center at (413) 534-3698 to provide your email address for the Zoom link to be sent to you. Please save the link as this will be the link you will use for each class.

Tuesday yoga at RiverMills Center

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Council on Aging will be offering Zoom Yoga on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.

Caitlin Lavin, Certified Yoga Instructor, will be leading classes. These classes are free and the Zoom links are available on RiverMills Center’s Facebook page or by calling (413) 534-3698.

Gentle exercise with Ryan via Zoom

CHICOPEE- The Council on Aging offers “Gentle Exercise with Ryan” Via Zoom, Mondays and Fridays at 12 p.m.

This class focuses on functional movement & fun. This is an online class. Join Ryan every Monday and Friday at 12 p.m. The Zoom link is shared on RiverMills Center’s Facebook page. If you do not have Facebook, please contact RiverMills Center at (413) 534-3698 to provide your email address for the Zoom link to be emailed to you.

Please save the Zoom link as that is the link you will use each class.

Zoom Meditation with Michelle

CHICOPEE – The Council on Aging offers “Meditation with Michelle” Via Zoom, Thursdays at 12 p.m.

Are you feeling stressed? Do you want to learn how to relax? Join us for Meditation on Zoom. This class is led by Michelle Zemba LMT. This is an online class. The Zoom link will be shared on RiverMills Center’s Facebook page. If you do not have Facebook, please call RiverMills Center at (413) 534-3698 to provide your email address for the Zoom link to be sent to you. Please save the link as this will be the link you will use for each class.

Greater Springfield Senior Services announces assistance with COVID vaccine registration

REGION – Greater Springfield Senior Services, Inc. (GSSSI) is now assisting older adults with registering for the COVID-19 vaccine through the online registration portals.

Interested parties can call GSSSI at (413) 781-8800 (Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) to be connected to a highly trained, bilingual team of dedicated Information and Referral Specialists. Staff are ready to assist with online sign-ups and are available to answer any questions.



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# Sports

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## Pacers take down Putnam



Jason Lozado takes the snap and heads for a handoff.

PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Running back Steven Matta gets the stiff arm on a defensive player.



The Pacers defensive line rushes at Putnam's offense.

**SPRINGFIELD** – After a scoreless game for nearly a half, Chicopee was finally able to put some points on the board and took away a 21-6 win from Putnam last Saturday afternoon at Berte Field at Central High School. The two teams traded turn-overs for much of the second quarter. But Chicopee finally got it together and was able to continue to keep Putnam off the scoreboard. Chicopee is 1-2 in the Fall 2 season.



Nathan Serrano attempts to make a catch.

## MIAA activity picking up

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

**REGION** – It has been a rarity for a team from Western Massachusetts to qualify for the Division 1A tournament, a special tournament for select elite teams in various sports.

A lot of questions have been raised about the future of the Division 1A tournament now that the state is going to a statewide tournament and eliminating the sectional tournaments.

Last Thursday, the Tournament Management Committee met to discuss the subject.

The Division 1A tournament will likely be delayed until 2025 in order to allow the MIAA and its various sport committee to compile four years of data under the new structure.

Division 1A tournaments are dependent on the sport, and not all sports hold one. Hockey, basketball, soccer, and baseball and softball are among the sports that could possibly hold tournaments. The 1A tournament has been held for hockey in previous years with Pope Francis, previously Cathedral, taking part in the tournament often.

Baseball has also been a sport that has had a 1A tournament in recent years, with many of the state's elite teams qualifying to play in it. The teams that qualify often would abandon their section tournaments to participate in the 1A event.

According to the proposal made to the TMC, any approved 1A tournament must have a format that includes selection and seedings using the same power-rating/ranking system that is used for the other tournaments.

Recently, as part of the move to go to a statewide tournament, Maxpreps was secured to organize tournaments and collect information for rankings for state tournaments. Maxpreps is expected to use a formula to compile power rankings in order to see tournaments. It is not known exactly what the formula will be, but it could be a modified version of the Walker system, a ranking system utilized by teams from Western Massachusetts for tournaments. The system was developed for use due to the vast diversity among the schools in the region.

The proposal also says any 1A tournament must be single elimination tournaments. There are currently no multi-elimination tournaments with the exception of consolation rounds

See **MIAA** page 10

## Williams looking for another title run

**SEEKONK** – Two years ago, Ronnie Williams became the second driver not named Matt Hirschman to win a Tri Track Open Modified Series presented by All Phases Renovations championship. In 2021, he looks to do it again.

Williams, driving for veteran car owner Gary Casella, returns to Tri Track driving the familiar No. 25 he's taken to Victory Lane before, and hopes to be consistent enough to contend for the title at the end of the six-race schedule.

"Gary can be a clown when you're around him, it's fun," Williams said. "If you look at Gary, you might not think he can set up a race car... but every single place we go, we are fast. He wants to win, I want to win.... and we just work well together."

Williams is set for another busy year as a driver, competing full-time chasing his third SK Modified championship at Stafford Motor Speedway, while also running



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Ronnie Williams is among the drivers looking to make his way back to a championship this season.

with the Tri Track Series and some select NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour and Open Modified events. Over the last three years, Williams has become one of the quickest and most successful rising stars the Modified ranks in New England offers.

"It's fun," Williams said of all of his driving ventures. "It's better when we are winning... last year we didn't have

as much success as we would have liked, but hopefully this year we can turn it back around and have some more fun."

Tri Track will visit three New England race tracks in 2021 -- Monadnock Speedway, Star Speedway and Seekonk Speedway. Williams has previous wins at Monadnock and Seekonk, but has yet to hold the checkered flag at Star.

"I don't have a ton of laps

at Star but I love it," Williams said. "It's a weird little track. We almost had a win there in the SBM when Ron Silk beat us, which was a great race. It's one track that both Gary & I really want to win at this year. Hopefully we can get it done."

Williams knows the competition is going to be stout, and the path to wins, or the championship, will not be easy with Tri Track.

"You have a guy like Matt Hirschman racing and a lot of people from a lot of different parts of New England coming to run with Tri Track," Williams said. "It provides some of the best racing and brings the best drivers."

The Tri Track Open Modified Series presented by All Phases Renovations season begins on Saturday, May 1 at Monadnock Speedway. For more information on the Tri Track Open Modified Series, visit TriTrackModifieds.com and follow the series on social media.



# Premier Lacrosse League coming to Gillette

FOXBOROUGH – The Premier Lacrosse League (PLL) powered by Ticketmaster announced today that the league will return to Gillette Stadium to kick off the 2021 season with an opening five-game slate June 4 through June 6.

“There’s no better location to kick off our 2021 tour than Gillette Stadium,” said PLL Co-Founder and CMO Paul Rabil. “Our inaugural weekend in 2019 was a huge success. The fans in New England are passionate, and the Patriots organization is exceptional.”

The PLL season will begin at Gillette Stadium for the second time, getting underway with a primetime matchup between Cannons LC and Redwoods LC under the lights on Friday, June 4. Saturday’s slate includes a championship rematch between Whipsnakes LC and Chaos LC, followed by Archers LC taking on Atlas LC. On Sunday afternoon, Cannons LC will return to the field against Waterdogs LC, and the weekend will be capped off with a matchup between Chrome LC and Redwoods LC.

The PLL is a tour-based model featuring eight teams and the world’s best lacrosse players. In addition to being

full-time employees and receiving health benefits, players get equity stakes in the league – a first in professional sports. The league recently announced a merger with Major League Lacrosse, leading to the addition of the PLL’s eighth lacrosse club, Cannons LC.

The 2021 PLL season will include 11 tour stops from June to September. For the third consecutive year, PLL games will be distributed via an exclusive media rights agreement with NBC Sports Group with action being shown through a combination of NBC, NBCSN, and Peacock TV.

The PLL played its inaugural weekend at Gillette Stadium in 2019, and had announced plans to open the 2020 season at the home of the six-time Super Bowl Champion New England Patriots and New England Revolution before COVID-19 forced the adjustment of the season to a three-week quarantined and fanless tournament. Gillette Stadium has also hosted five NCAA Men’s Lacrosse Championships since 2008 and holds the NCAA Men’s Division I Championship attendance record (2008: 48,970), the top three attendance records for Division

I National Championship Games since 2012 (2012: 30,816, 2018: 29,455 and 2017: 28,971) and the top three Division II and Division III National Championship attendance records (2017: 31,560, 2008: 24,317 and 2009: 24,072). The venue hosted professional lacrosse games in 2015, and was recently awarded the 2025 and 2026 NCAA Men’s and Division I Women’s Lacrosse Championships.

Kraft Group President-International Dan Kraft, who was a collegiate lacrosse goalie for Tufts University in the 1980s and served on the executive Board of the 2018 Federation of International Lacrosse’s World Championships Host Committee, expressed his continued support for the league and its ongoing potential to further grow the sport in the New England region and throughout the country.

“We are thrilled to continue our incredible partnership with Paul and Mike Rabil and the Premier Lacrosse League and once again host the league’s opening weekend at Gillette Stadium this summer,” Kraft said. “We sincerely missed hosting professional lacrosse in 2020 and cannot wait to welcome the world’s best

lacrosse players back to Foxborough in 2021 for an exciting opening weekend. We feel Gillette Stadium is the country’s preeminent lacrosse venues and look forward to hosting another world-class event promoting the sport in such a large and passionate lacrosse region.”

Under the Commonwealth of Massachusetts’ reopening plan, Gillette Stadium will safely welcome fans to each game, and tickets are available now for all five games at Ticketmaster.com.

The PLL will work with its venue partners to maintain compliance with local and state governance regarding health and safety best practices. This will include standardized weekend-to-weekend health and safety measures, including but not limited to: seating pods, social distancing, enhanced venue cleaning, mobile ticketing, hand sanitation stations, staff and attendee mask requirements. Similar to the 2020 season, the PLL will be working with a committee of medical professionals to develop health and safety protocols for all players, staff and fans. For more information about the PLL and the 2021 season, visit [www.premierlacrosseleague.com](http://www.premierlacrosseleague.com).

## Presenters named for Basketball Hall of Fame induction

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame announced today the list of Hall of Famers scheduled to present the Class of 2020 at the Enshrinement Ceremony to be held Saturday, May 15 at Mohegan Sun Arena. More than 50 Hall of Famers are expected to be in attendance for the ceremony, including all presenters.

Members of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame Class of 2020 were asked to select previous inductees to accompany and present them to their peers. The choice is solely the decision of the incoming Hall of Famers, or their family members if recognized posthumously.

The Class of 2020 inductees are long-time FIBA executive Patrick Baumann, 18-time NBA All-Star and five-time NBA champion Kobe Bryant, 10-time WNBA All-Star and four-time Olympic gold medalist Tamika Catchings, 15-time NBA All-Star and three-time NBA Finals MVP Tim Duncan, 15-time NBA All-Star and nine-time NBA All-Defensive First Team selection Kevin Garnett, three-time NCAA National Championship Coach of

Baylor Kim Mulkey, five-time Division II National Coach of the Year Barbara Stevens, four-time collegiate National Coach of the Year Eddie Sutton, and two-time NBA Champion coach Rudy Tomjanovich.

The 2020 Hall of Fame Inductees and Presenters:

Patrick Baumann, presented by Russ Granik (’13), Vlade Divac (’19)

Kobe Bryant, presented by Michael Jordan (’09) Tamika Catchings, presented by Alonzo Mourning (’14), Dawn Staley (’13)

Tim Duncan, presented by David Robinson (’09)

Kevin Garnett, presented by Isaiah Thomas (’00)

Kim Mulkey, presented by Michael Jordan (’09)

Barbara Stevens, presented by Geno Auriemma (’06), Muffet McGraw (’17)

Eddie Sutton, presented by John Calipari (’15), Bill Self (’17), Sidney Moncrief (’19)

Rudy Tomjanovich, presented by Calvin Murphy (’93), Hakeem Olajuwon (’08)

Coaches and Parents - Send your sports photos to [gscibelli@turley.com](mailto:gscibelli@turley.com)

## Sign up for Quabbin Valley Baseball

REGION – The Quabbin Valley Baseball League is an age 28-and-over league which plays its games Sundays at 10 a.m. beginning in late April and concluding in late August. It is a six-team league and a 15-game schedule with all teams getting at least one play-off game at the end of August.

The league is seeking new players to join in the fun. The cost to play in 2021 is \$192.50 and registration can be found at [www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org](http://www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org). Games are mostly being played this year in Easthampton and South Hadley. Players who wish to pitch in the league must be 30-years-old.

Sign-ups will continue to be open

as the league still has open roster spots for new players. Players who sign up in the first few weeks of the season should be able to be placed with a team.

The league’s first games are scheduled for Sunday, April 25. For the 2021 season, there is a mask-wearing rule, as well as modifications that prohibit any type of spitting or close contact, and players are required to take out all trash they bring in with them. The league allows the use of BBCOR-certified -3 bats as well as wood bats. Games are nine innings and all players who participate get to hit and play the field. For more information or to contact someone from the league, go to the league’s website.

## Valley Wheel Baseball seeks new players

REGION – The Valley Wheel Over-30 Baseball League is looking for new players for the 2021 season, which is set to begin at the end of April. Players who are 28-years-old prior to June 1 are eligible to play in the league this season, however, only those 30 by June 1 are eligible to pitch. The league includes six teams and there is a 15-game season that begins on Sunday, April 25.

Games are 12 Sundays, a special Mother’s Day weekend Saturday game, and two

weekday night games under the lights. The season ends the final week of July with the playoffs for the top four teams during the first two weeks of August. While tryouts have completed, there are still open roster spots among the six teams in the league. The league will continue to accept applications for new players throughout the season. All players bat and every player spends at least four innings in the field in a nine-inning game. The league will be playing with some minor modifications due to the COVID-19 pandemic to start. For more information, please contact League Commissioner Jim Nason at [wheel12@comcast.net](mailto:wheel12@comcast.net).

**MIAA from page 9**

for wrestlers. But that is an individual, not a team tournament.

According to the proposal, data will be analyzed in the next four years in order to see if dominance exists in particular sports and if there is a need to establish the elite tournament across the state.

There was a 12-2 vote approving the proposal and recommending it to the MIAA Board of Directors.



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## How to help kids make friends at school

The average student likely spends more time at school and participating in extracurricular activities with classmates than he or she does at home. In close proximity to so many peers, it may seem like making friends would be a snap. However, some students have trouble connecting and can use a little push to make friends.

The family and parenting resource Parenting Science notes that research indicates that the most popular children are those who exemplify certain traits. These traits include being caring; a willingness to share; a willingness to offer help; and strong verbal skills. Children who embrace these traits may prove better at making friends. Parents may find that youngsters need some encouragement to build their social circles, and the following are some ways parents can offer that encouragement.

- Encourage kids to seek out someone on their own. It may be challenging to walk up to a group and introduce yourself. Encourage students to seek out someone who is alone and then strike up a conversation, which can be less intimidating than approaching a group. Emphasize to kids that other students may also be a little shy and looking to make friends.

- Practice conversation starters at home. Children can work with their parents to come up with topics that can help foster communication. These can include ice breakers and common interests, such as favorite television shows or video games.

- Teach kids approachable body lan-

guage. Wearing earbuds or exhibiting negative body language, such as crossed arms or avoiding eye contact, can make a person seem less approachable. Smiling, engaging in conversation and being friendly can make it easier to make friends.

- Ask teachers to help. The education resource Understood says teachers can give children responsibilities, such as the opportunity to hand out snacks or papers, which can build confidence and provide opportunities for kids to converse with their peers.

- Help children be active listeners.

An active listener is someone who makes it clear that he or she is paying attention. Making eye contact, orienting

the body toward the speaker and making relevant verbal responses are some active listening strategies that can help kids more fully engage with their peers. Feeling valued and listened to may encourage other children to be more friendly and engaging.

- Ask open questions. The social networking advisement site Young Scot suggests having students ask open questions, such as: "How was your summer?" or "What sports do you like to play?" These types of questions can

kick-start in-depth conversations.

- Join a team or club. Students often make friends in social or extracurricular settings, such as on a sports team. With a shared interest, it's easy to find topics to discuss.

Making friends in school can make time spent in the classroom more enjoyable for youngsters.

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# 5 reasons why summer camp is a good choice for kids

Summer vacation offers students a respite from lessons and the routine of school. Children might once have eagerly awaited those final days of classes so they could lounge poolside, skip rocks across ponds and spend the long days of the season playing with friends. But many of today's youngsters spend much of their summer vacations indoors playing with their digital devices.

Perhaps that's why one of the last vestiges of the classic summer vacation escape — summer camp — remains such a viable option for parents who want their children to get outdoors once the school year ends.

Although kids needn't be in camp all summer long, a week or two can benefit campers of all ages. The following are five reasons why summer camp might be the right fit this year.

1. Explore talents. Summer camps help young people explore their unique interests and talents. Under an organized, yet often easygoing, camp schedule, kids can dabble in sports, arts and crafts, leadership, community support,

and so many other activities that may not be fully available to them elsewhere.

2. Physical activity: Lots of camps build their itineraries around physical activities that takes place outdoors. Campers may spend their time swimming, running, hiking, playing sports, climbing, and so much more. This can be a welcome change for kids accustomed to living sedentary lifestyles. Regular physical activity has many health benefits and can set a foundation for healthy habits as an adult.

3. Gain confidence. Day and sleep-away camps offer campers the opportunity to get comfortable in their own skin. Camps can foster activities in self-esteem by removing the academic measures of success and fill in with noncompetitive opportunities to succeed. Campers learn independence, decision-making skills and the ability to thrive outside of the shadow of their parents, siblings or other students.

4. Try new things. Camp gives children the chance to try new things, whether that's learning to cook, explor-

ing new environments or embracing a new sport or leisure activity. Opening oneself up to new opportunities can build character and prove enlightening for children.

5. Make new friends. Camp is a great place to meet new people and

make lifelong friends. Campers flood in from areas near and far. This provides kids with a chance to expand their social circles beyond their immediate neighborhoods and schools.

Camps benefit children in a variety

of ways. Lessons learned in camp can strengthen values, build confidence, develop coping mechanisms when adversity strikes, and enable campers to make lifelong friends.



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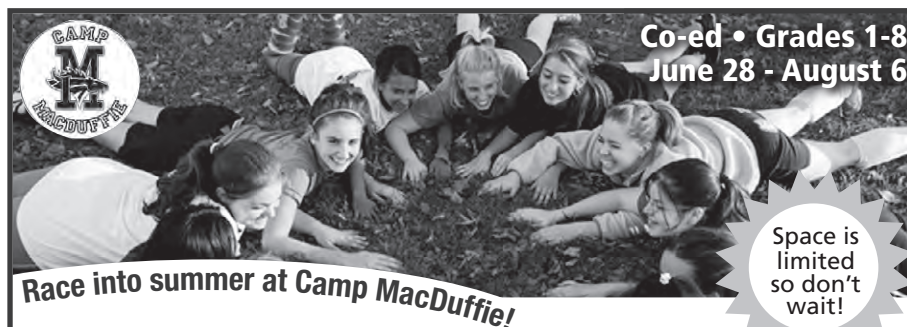
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# Baystate Medical Center offering COVID-19 patients monoclonal antibody treatments

SPRINGFIELD – Baystate Health is the only area health system to offer monoclonal antibody therapy for patients, which may help the body’s immune system to combat the deadly COVID-19 virus.

“We first administered the experimental drug to a patient on Dec. 9. I was amazed by his recovery and absolutely thrilled over the hope that this could bring to so many other patients impacted by COVID-19,” said Dr. Gladys Fernandez, co-director of the Baystate Infection Control Treatment Unit and director of hospital-based education programs at Baystate Medical Center.

“Over the past two months, an incredible team of front-line healthcare providers and critical behind the scenes staff has come together to develop and implement an effective program of antibody infusions for patients across the state,” she said.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration in November issued an emergency use authorization for Eli Lilly’s monoclonal antibody and Regeneron’s antibody “cocktail” to treat COVID-19 in high-risk patients with mild to moderate disease.

According to the FDA, the monoclonal antibody may reduce COVID-19-related hospitalizations and emergency room visits in some patients treated early on in their infection, which would be within 10 days of symptom onset.

Emergency use authorization, which has since been invoked for the coronavirus vaccines, allows products such as the COVID-19 monoclonal antibodies which have been shown to offer benefits to some patients in trials, to be used before all the evidence is available for full approval.

Unlike the vaccines that stimulate one’s own immune system to produce antibodies, monoclonal antibodies are given to treat early COVID-19 to help prevent progression of illness. They are also being studied to determine if they can prevent someone from contracting the coronavirus.

Monoclonal antibodies are laboratory-made proteins that mimic the immune system’s ability to fight off harmful pathogens such as viruses. The four laboratory-produced COVID-19 monoclonal antibodies, casirivimab, imdevimab, bamlanivimab, and etesevimab, are specifically directed against the spike

protein of SARS-CoV-2, which is the official name of the novel coronavirus, designed to block the virus’ attachment and entry into human cells. Bamlanivimab and the antibody cocktail casirivimab and imdevimab, referred to as a “cocktail” because of the combining of two antibodies, were first authorized in November 2020. Both required one-hour infusion and an extra hour for observation following the infusion. On Feb. 9, 2021, the cocktail bamlanivimab and etesevimab received FDA authorization after its phase 3 clinical data were analyzed to be infused for as short as 21 minutes.

“When used to treat COVID-19 for the authorized population, the known and potential benefits of these antibodies outweigh the known and potential risks,” wrote the FDA.

The “authorized population” consists of patients ages 12 and older weighing about 88 pounds, with positive results of direct SARS-CoV-2 testing and who are at high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19.

According to the FDA, “it should be given as soon as possible after a positive test result. This includes those who are 65 years of age or older who have certain chronic medical conditions such as diabetes, heart disease or kidney disease. The cocktail has not been authorized for use in patients who are hospitalized with COVID-19 or need oxygen therapy due to the virus.

Jim Ryan, 69, was the first patient to receive a monoclonal antibody infusion at Baystate Medical Center.

“I am very cautious, and I emphasize ‘very’ cautious in following all of the safety guidelines. And it is undetermined where and from whom I might have caught the virus,” said the Ludlow man.

Ryan, a runner who competes in marathons, thought because he was healthy for his age that if he did contract the virus that it would be a mild case. But that wasn’t to be.

“I was pretty sick. My sinuses were involved. I lost my sense of taste and smell. And I had a 104-degree fever and was fatigued beyond belief. I was in communication from home with my primary care provider, who told me that Baystate Medical Center would soon be offering monoclonal antibody therapy to patients. Because of my age and the fact that I was considered high risk, she entered me into the lottery and within a few days I ‘won’ and was being infused at the hospital,” he said.

Because he was already pretty sick when he received the infusion, Ryan said, “It wasn’t an overnight cure. But I did start feeling better each day afterwards and it helped to keep me out of the hospital.”

“I would recommend the therapy to anyone given the opportunity to take it,” said Ryan, a retired pharmacist, who is healthy once again and riding his bicycle 25 miles a day.

Dr. Armando Paez, chief of the Infectious Disease Division at Baystate Medical Center, who also heads the Baystate COVID Monoclonal Antibody Infusion Team, noted he was ecstatic to learn that the Massachusetts Department of Public Health had approved the hospital to provide the novel treatment to eligible COVID-19 patients in western Massachusetts.

“Not all hospitals are equipped to administer monoclonal antibody therapy, which is a complicated, time-consuming process that requires detailed attention and follow up from highly-skilled professionals. Our work would not have been as successful from an operational standpoint without the effort of an amazing group of dedicated individuals working behind the scenes on the screening, scheduling, treatment and follow-up of these patients,” said Paez, who noted they have received a lot of positive feedback from patients on how they felt after receiving the therapy with few to no side effects.

Baystate’s chief Infectious disease physician noted COVID-19 monoclonal antibodies remain an investigational treatment, but are very promising in early infection and may also prevent infection following an exposure.

“Clinical studies are still being conducted, and so far, I like what I have been hearing. The challenge remains the complexity of how this treatment is being given by infusion, but subcutaneous (injected to skin) delivery of this treatment is currently being studied. Based

on our experience, getting a COVID-19 test done in a high-risk patient suspected of having the virus and getting results promptly is as important as treating the patient as early as possible, up to 10 days from start of symptoms, to allow the cocktail’s potential benefit,” said Paez.

To date, the Baystate team has successfully provided monoclonal antibody treatment to over 140 patients selected for infusion based on a regulated criterion-based referral lottery system with guidance from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

The allocation guidance prioritizes patients age who are 65 years or older and those 18 or older with obesity, defined as body mass index of 35 or above, and sets aside at least 20% of infusion slots for vulnerable populations.

Paez noted that the lottery system is not used any longer for patients to be considered to receive antibody therapy.

“Fortunately, Baystate is able to meet the demand for the monoclonal antibody treatment for eligible patients, and will only employ a lottery system if the demand exceeds the infusion capacity,” he said.

Since its inception at Baystate, the hospital has been able to successfully infuse up to 8 patients per day due to an efficient workflow and enhanced patient care strategies in place, noted Dr. Fernandez.

“I am very proud to be part of this team and reflect on the impact of this effort on the many patients treated every single day. The evolution of science and public health initiatives related to this pandemic has been overwhelming at times, and I consider it an honor and a blessing to be part of positive outcomes,” she added.

For more information about COVID-19 monoclonal antibody treatment at Baystate Health, visit: <https://www.baystatehealth.org/covid19/treatment/antibody>.

## COVID-19 antibody testing available at CVS MinuteClinic locations

REGION – CVS Health has announced the availability of COVID-19 antibody testing in all MinuteClinic locations in Massachusetts; there are 59 MinuteClinic locations in the state.

The point-of-care test assesses for previous exposure to COVID-19 and results are available within 15 minutes. MinuteClinic is the retail medical clinic of CVS Health, with approximately 1,100 locations inside select CVS Pharmacy stores in 33 states and Washington, D.C.


“We know there is growing interest in affordable COVID-19 antibody testing and believe that MinuteClinic can help patients access this service given our convenient locations, extended evening and weekend hours and our commitment to high quality, evidence-based clinical care,” said Sharon Vitti, president of MinuteClinic.

COVID-19 antibody test results are available within 15 minutes. During the visit, the MinuteClinic provider will perform the antibody test, which includes the

collection of a finger stick blood sample, and will review the results with the patient. The COVID-19 antibody test is intended to assess for prior exposure to the virus and antibodies can develop in as few as 14 days after infection. This test is not intended to diagnose a current infection.

COVID-19 antibody testing costs \$38 and payment is due at the time of service. Payment can be made using cash or credit, debit, HSA or FSA cards. If a patient has Medicaid, MinuteClinic may bill this insurance based on Medicaid requirements.

COVID-19 antibody testing at MinuteClinic is an extension of CVS Health’s overall commitment to providing access to COVID-19 testing and the company is evaluating further expansion of this service in the coming weeks. CVS Health currently offers COVID-19 testing at more than 4,800 CVS Pharmacy locations, nearly 1,000 of which provide rapid-result testing. To date, the company has administered more than 15 million COVID-19 tests.



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**RETIREE PAYS CASH**  
for stamp collections,  
large or small.  
Will evaluate or buy.  
Questions??  
Ron **(413)896-3324**

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**FIREWOOD**  
Fresh cut & split \$170.00  
Seasoned cut & split \$200.00  
All hardwood.  
Tree length available  
\*Also have seasoned softwood for  
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umes **guaranteed!!** New England  
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**!!!!FRESH CUT FIREWOOD!!!!**  
Over a cord guaranteed. Cut, Split,  
Prompt delivery. Call D & D Cordwood  
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**A PLACE FOR MOM.** The nation's  
largest senior living referral service.  
Contact our trusted, local experts to-  
day! Our service is FREE/no obliga-  
tion. CALL **1-855-799-4127**

**DEALING WITH WATER DAM-  
AGE** requires immediate action. Local  
professionals that respond immedi-  
ately. Nationwide and 24/7. No Mold Calls.  
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**DO YOU HAVE** chronic knee or back  
pain? If you have insurance, you may  
qualify for the perfect brace at little to  
no cost. Get yours today! Call **1-800-  
217-0504**

**INVENTORS: FREE INFOR-  
MATION PACKAGE** Have your  
product idea developed affordably by  
the Research & Development pros  
and presented to manufacturers. Call  
**855-380-5976** for a free idea starter  
guide. Submit your idea for a free con-  
sultation.

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a button sends help FAST! Medical,  
Fire, Burglar. Even if you can't reach  
a phone! FREE brochure. CALL **800-  
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MIER MOBILE MEDICAL ALERT**  
SYSTEM. Whether you're Home or  
Away. For Safety and Peace of Mind.  
No Long Term Contracts! Free Bro-  
chure! Call Today! **1-844-892-1017**

**OXYGEN-ANYTIME. ANY-  
WHERE.** No tanks to refill. No deliv-  
eries. Only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved!  
FREE info kit: Call **1-855-917-4693**

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vice or business to 1.7 million house-  
holds throughout New England. Reach  
4 million potential readers quickly and  
inexpensively with great results. Use  
the Buy New England Classified Ad  
Network by calling **(413)283-8393**,  
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You are reading one of our ads now!  
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**STAY IN YOUR HOME** longer with  
an American Standard Walk-In Bath-  
tub. Receive up to \$1,500 off, including  
a free toilet, and a lifetime warranty on  
the tub and installation! Call us at  
**1-866-945-3783**.

## FOR SALE

**STOP STRUGGLING ON** THE  
STAIRS. Give your life a lift with an  
ACORN STAIRLIFT! Call now for \$250.  
OFF your stairlift purchase and FREE  
DVD & brochure! **1-844-325-8610**

## TAG SALE

**RUTLAND, MASS 25TH ANNU-  
AL TOWN WIDE YARD SALE.**  
Sat. April 24 - 250+ participants.  
Maps at town lines and on Common  
(Rts 122A and 56) starting at 7:15 AM.  
Rain or Shine. Join the Fun!

## WANTED

**OLD CARPENTER TOOLS** want-  
ed. Planes, chisels, axes, etc. Vintage  
hunting, camping, cast iron cookware.  
Covid guidelines followed. Call Ken  
**(413)433-2195**.

## SERVICES



**1\*\*\*\*\*A CALL WE HAUL  
WE TAKE IT ALL  
WE LOAD IT ALL**  
Lowest Rates,  
accumulations, junk, estates,  
attics, garages, appliances,  
basements, demo services.  
10% disc. with this ad of services.  
Dumpster Rentals available for rent.  
All Major CC's  
CALL NOW **(413)531-1936**  
acallwehaul@gmail.com

**BUY  
LOCALLY**  
support our community!

## SERVICES



**2\*\*\*\*\*A & B HOUSEHOLD  
REMOVAL SERVICE\*\*\*\*\***  
Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard  
debris. Barns, sheds, demolished.  
Swimming pools removed. Cheap-  
er than dumpster fees and we do all  
the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured.  
**(413)283-6512, cell (413)222-  
8868**.

**A HOME IMPROVEMENT SPE-  
CIALIST** Decks, additions, garages,  
sheds, porches, repair work. BBB  
Approved Tim **413-563-2229** Lic  
#053483

**BILODEAU AND SON ROOFING.**  
Established 1976. New re-roofs and  
repairs. Gutter cleanings and repairs.  
Licensed/ insured. Call **(413)967-  
6679**

**BOB ROBILLARD'S RUBBISH  
REMOVAL** attics, cellars, garag-  
es cleaned. Light moving. BOBCAT  
WORK. Family owned/ operated since  
1950 **(413)537-5090**

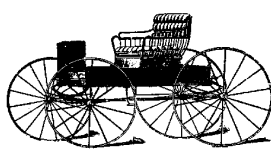
**CHAIR SEAT WEAVING** & refinish-  
ing - cane, fiber rush & splint - Class-  
room instructor, 20+ years experience.  
Call Walt at **(413)289-6670** for esti-  
mate.

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**PAINT AND PAPER** Over 25 years  
experience. References. Lic #086220.  
Please call Kevin **978-355-6864**.

## SERVICES



**WE RENOVATE, SELL & PUR-  
CHASE** (any condition) horse drawn  
vehicles such as sleighs, carriages,  
surreys, wagons, dr's buggies, drive-  
able or lawn ornaments. Some furni-  
ture and other restoration services  
available. Reasonable prices. Quality  
workmanship. Call **(413)213-0373**  
for estimate and information.

**DEMERS & SONS  
BELCHERTOWN, MA**

## CHILD SERVICES

**\*NEW STATE LAW.** Anyone adver-  
tising caring of children must list a li-  
cense number to do so if they offer this  
service in their own home.

## ELECTRICIAN

**CHAMPAGNE ELECTRICAL  
CONTRACTORS** Service changes/  
upgrades, generators, phone/data wir-  
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cards accepted. License #22882A  
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**DEPENDABLE ELECTRICIAN,  
FRIENDLY** service, installs deicing  
cables. Free estimates. Fully insured.  
Scott Winters electrician Lic. #13514-B  
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## HOME IMPROVEMENT

**CERAMIC TILE INSTALLATION**  
Kitchen, bath, foyers. Referenc-  
es. Lic #086220. Please call Kevin  
**(978)355-6864**.

## SERVICES

**DELREO HOME IMPROVEMENT**  
for all your exterior home improve-  
ment needs. ROOFING, SIDING,  
WINDOWS, DOORS, DECKS & GUT-  
TERS. Extensive references available,  
Fully Licensed & Insured in MA. & CT.  
Call GARY DELCAMP @ **413-569-  
3733**

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MODELING** Kitchens, baths. Ceram-  
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siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully  
insured. Free estimates. **(413)246-  
2783** Ron.

**NAWROCKI HOME IMPROVE-  
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ment windows & doors, roofing, siding,  
decks, custom woodworking, drywall.  
Full insured & registered **413-237-  
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CALL JAY (413)436-5782-  
FOR REPAIRS**

**COMPLETE DRYWALL  
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40+ YEARS EXPERIENCE.  
FULLY INSURED.**

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Extreme Brush Cutting!  
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal  
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**DAVE'S LAWN  
AND GARDEN, LLC.**  
Spring Clean-ups  
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Stump grinding  
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Certified/ Insured  
Call Dave **(413)478-4212**  
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**T & S LANDSCAPING** Highest  
quality, lowest price. Serving the Pio-  
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BASEMENTS  
ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT  
WATERPROOFING**

All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatch-  
way doors, basement windows, chim-  
neys rebuilt & repaired, foundations  
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tems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free  
estimates. Lic #14790. Call **(413)569-  
1611, (413)374-5377**

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**GREG LAFOUNTAIN PLUMBING  
& HEATING** Lic #19196 Repairs &  
Replacement of fixtures, water heater  
installations, steam/HW boiler replace-  
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years experience. Fully insured. \$10  
Gift Card With Work Performed. Call  
Greg **(413)592-1505**

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LIC. #J27222**  
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Call LINC'S  
For Your Connection  
**(413)668-5299**

## ROOFING

Call The Leak Expert. Roof Leaks,  
Slate Repairs, Gutters Cleaned and  
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George **(413) 221-3188**

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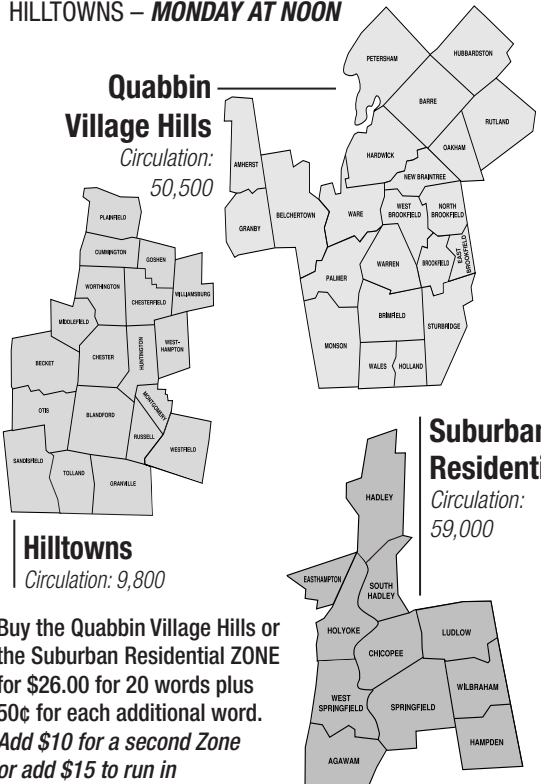
MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069  
or call: 413-283-8393

DEADLINES:

QUABBIN & SUBURBAN - **FRIDAY AT NOON**  
HILLTOWNS - **MONDAY AT NOON**

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Weeks: \_\_\_\_\_ X per week rate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ Cash ☐ Check# \_\_\_\_\_  
Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount of charge: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or  
the Suburban Residential ZONE  
for \$26.00 for 20 words plus  
50¢ for each additional word.  
Add \$10 for a second Zone  
or add \$15 to run in  
**ALL THREE ZONES.**

First ZONE base price \_\_\_\_\_ Includes additional words  
Add a second ZONE **\$10.00**  
Add a third ZONE **\$5.00**  
Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_  
x Number of Weeks \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Run my ad in the  
following ZONE(s):  
☐ Quabbin  
☐ Suburban  
☐ Hilltowns

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## SERVICES

### RUBBISH REMOVAL

**TRASH, JUNK, CLUTTER** We clean out all. Prompt courteous service. Fully insured. Free estimates. Dumpster service available. DiRico Properties **(413) 530-1299**

### TREE WORK

**DL & G TREE SERVICE-** Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate **(413)478-4212**.

### TUNE UPS

#### LAWNMOWER TUNE UP & REPAIR

#### A&M TUNE-UPS

Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers and Small Engine Repair. *Work done at your home.*

**FREE PICKUP OF UNWANTED LAWN EQUIPMENT**  
Call Mike (413) 348-7967

## SERVICES

### STUMP GRINDING

**DL & G STUMP GRINDING** Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave **413-478-4212**

## AUTO

### CASH FOR JUNK AND REPAIRABLE CARS

**FREE TOWING FAST SERVICE CASH PAID AS IS CALL OR TEXT 413-219-6839**

**CARS/TRUCKS WANTED!!!** All Makes/ Models 2000-2019! Any Condition, Running or Not. Top \$\$\$ Paid! Free Towing! We're Nationwide! Call Now: **1-888-513-1505**.

Find archives of this local newspaper at [www.newspapers.turley.com](http://www.newspapers.turley.com)

## PETS

**RETIRED RACING GREYHOUNDS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION**  
**SPAYED/NEUTERED, WORMED, SHOTS, HEARTWORM TESTED, TEETH CLEANED**

#### MAKE A FAST FRIEND!

**GREYHOUND OPTIONS INC. CALL MARY AT 413-566-3129 OR CLAIRE AT 413-967-9088 OR GO TO [WWW.GREYHOUNDOPTIONS.ORG](http://WWW.GREYHOUNDOPTIONS.ORG)**

## HORSES

**HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS** offered year round at our state of the art facility. Beginner to advanced. Ages 4 years to adult. Boarding, Sales and Leasing also available. Convenient location at Orion Farm in South Hadley **(413)532-9753**  
[www.orionfarm.net](http://www.orionfarm.net)

## HELP WANTED

**ASSISTANT HAIRSYLIST** with hairstyle license. Will train. Busy salon. Do not need clientele. Tuesday-Saturday. Information call **413-786-6988**

## HELP WANTED

**PAINTER PART TO FULL TIME.** No fear of heights. Must have vehicle and valid drivers license. Will train right person if not experienced. Steve **(413) 477-8217**

**SHORT ORDER COOK.** Breakfast and Lunch. Full or Part Time. Local Area. John **(413)537-2455**

**TRUCK DRIVER - CLASS A CDL** - Bulk Tank - Tri Axle - Dump Trailer - Experience Required. RB Enterprises, Ludlow **(413) 583-8393**

**WAS BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION** Is now taking applications for the following positions: Skilled Laborer - Underground utility construction. Truck Driver/Laborer - required to perform both. Must be able to pass a background check, DOT physical and drug/alcohol testing. Applications accepted between 9:00am-2:00pm M-F @ 2378 Boston Road, Wilbraham, MA. Paid major holidays, vacation, medical insurance after 90 days and SIMPLE IRA offered.

### CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

**QUABBIN & SUBURBAN FRIDAY AT NOON**

**HILLTOWNS MONDAY AT NOON**

## REAL ESTATE

### FOR RENT



**EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY**

**ALL REAL ESTATE** advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

### VACATION RENTALS

**WARM WEATHER IS** Year Round In Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-Bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. Email: [carolaction@aol.com](mailto:carolaction@aol.com) for more information.

## REAL ESTATE

### WANTED TO RENT

Two mature adults with excellent references seeking to rent a 2/3 bedroom apartment with washer/dryer hookups in apartment. Ludlow or surrounding area. Call Sandra (413) 583-4746 after 10am.

### FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES Under G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A

Notice is hereby given by **Interstate Towing, Inc.** pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on **April 30, 2021** at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

**2001 YAMAHA YJ50**  
VIN: JYASA17A01A001442  
MARIO NAVONE  
49 SOUTH WORTH ST #3  
WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA 01089

**2003 CHEVROLET SILVERADO**  
VIN: 1GCJK39U43E313727  
SARA BOUCHER  
25 HALE ST  
WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA 01089

**2004 HONDA ACCORD**  
VIN: 2HGES16564H608195  
HECTOR FRED-LOPEZ  
70 NEW BRIDGE ST  
WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA 01089

**2005 TOYOTA CAMRY**  
VIN: 4T1BE32K45U100737  
ANNIE KNIGHT  
PO BOX 184  
HURLEYVILLE, NY 12747

**2006 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY**  
VIN: 2A4GP44RX6R742022  
JENNIFER MCTIER  
119 ASHLEY AVE APT 16  
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01105

**2006 HONDA ACCORD**  
VIN: 1HGCM56836A103932  
MATTHEW PARDEE  
70 RODNEY ST  
WORCESTER, MA 01605

**2007 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE**  
VIN: 1J8GR48K17C514636  
GARY HALL  
14 SYLVAN DR  
WESTFIELD, MA 01085

**2013 FORD F150**  
VIN: 1FTFX1EFXDFD07591  
TITAN ROOFING, INC  
200 TAPLEY ST  
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01104

**2016 VOLVO VN VNL**  
VIN: 4V4NC9EH8GN939155  
KGZ TRANSPORT  
16048 S PEPPERMILL TRL  
GLENN, IL 60491

**2019 NISSAN ALTIMA**  
VIN: 1N4BL4BV4KC249067  
FRANCIS KENNY  
35 CROSS ST  
EVERETT, MA 02149  
04/16, 04/23, 04/30/2021

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT HAMPDEN, Div. Probate & Family Court Dept.**  
**HD21E0004PP1**

To Laurie A Lemay of Deer Isle, Maine as a Joint Tenant and to all other persons interested.

A petition has been presented to said Court by Keith M Lemay and Wayne J Lemay, both of Chicopee in the County of Hampden representing that they hold as joint tenants an undivided part or share of land lying in Chicopee, in the County of Hampden, setting forth that they desire that all of said land on Parcel 1 at 773 McKinstry Avenue, Chicopee, Massachusetts may be sold at private sale for not less than Two Hundred Sixty Thousand (\$260,000.00) Dollars and all of said land on Parcel 2 at 783 McKinstry Avenue, Chicopee, Massachusetts may be sold at private sale for not less than One Hundred Ninety-five Thousand (\$195,000.00) Dollars and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner be appointed

to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof after full adjudication of the equitable claims contained in said petition and supplemental memorandum filed with the Court.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Springfield before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the **18th day of June, 2021**, the return day of this citation. Witness, BARBARA M. HYLAND, Esquire, First Justice of said Court, this eighth day of April, 2021.

**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate & Family Court  
04/23, 04/30, 05/07/2021

**Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.**

*Let them know you saw their ad in the*  
**Chicopee Register**

## NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for The Chicopee Register, please email [chicopeeregister@turley.com](mailto:chicopeeregister@turley.com).

A TURLEY PUBLICATION  
[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

## Chicopee Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$120, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

*Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.*

## PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to [notices@turley.com](mailto:notices@turley.com)
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

*Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.*

**visit [www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)**





**STADLER ACE HARDWARE, INC.**  
**Now Stocking All Your Lawn & Garden Supplies**  
We Have All Of The Tools & Materials You Will Need To Get Your Yard & Lawn Ready For Spring.  
**ACE Hardware** POOL SUPPLIES & WATER TESTING  
3 STADLER STREET, BELCHERTOWN, MA • 413-323-4521  
OPEN MON.-FRI. 8-6, SAT. 8-4, SUN. 10-4 • [www.acestadler.com](http://www.acestadler.com)

**AMHERST FARMERS SUPPLY**  
For Your Lawn, Garden and Landscaping Needs  
320 So. Pleasant St., Amherst, MA  
(413) 253-3436

**Your lawn projects start here!**  
Rototillers, brush mowers, pressure washers, overseeders, dethatchers, and more.  
**TJ'S True Value RENTAL**  
South Hadley  
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HADLEY • 584-4184  
301 Russell Street (Rt. 9)  
[www.tjstruevaluerental.com](http://www.tjstruevaluerental.com)

**DEVON LANE** Power Equipment  
Rte. 9, 10 Ware Road, Belchertown  
413-323-5435  
**Farm Supply**  
Rte. 202 N. 357 Daniel Shays Hwy, Belchertown  
413-323-6336  
[www.devonlane.com](http://www.devonlane.com)

- Mowers • Lawn Tractors
- Chainsaws • Trimmers
- Generators • Brush Cutters
- Hedge Trimmers
- Rototillers & More

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Annuals • Perennials • Water Garden Supplies  
Bark Mulch & Loam • Open 7 Days  
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Your Complete GARDEN Center

**Megan's Valley**  
Garden & Landscape Supply  
VALLEY'S BEST LOAM SOURCE  
A large variety of bark mulch, landscaping stone & walkway/patio products, pavers, compost, lawn décor & more!  
8 Mill Valley Road • Hadley  
413-582-1263  
[www.megansvalley.com](http://www.megansvalley.com)

**Hodgen Landscape Co., Inc.**  
Est. 1956  
Complete Landscaping, Designing & Planting  
P.O. Box 873 | Belchertown, MA 01007  
Phone (413) 323-4949 ♦ Fax (413) 323-4999 ♦ Call (413) 246-8061  
[hodgenlandscape.com](http://hodgenlandscape.com) ♦ [hodgenlandscape@gmail.com](mailto:hodgenlandscape@gmail.com)

**GRANBY COUNTRY GRAIN**  
108 West State Street, Granby • 1-413-467-3838  
For All Your Annuals, Perennials, Garden Decor, Lawn, Garden & Landscaping Needs  
OPEN Monday - Saturday

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Belchertown, MA  
413-323-7649  
It's Spring and Time to Get Your Outdoor Project Started!  
**Deliveries**  
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